

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-5. (cancelled)

6. (currently amended) A guide for controlling web material in laterally separate paths from a web supply to a machine for producing packing blanks, comprising:

- a frame extending transversely to a feed direction of the web;
- at least one pair of laterally separated guide rails running in parallel in said feed direction, each guide rail comprising an upper and a lower flexible strip, respectively, the strips defining a guided passage from an entrance end to an exit end of the guide rail;
- the guide rails being laterally displaceable on the frame;
- the exit end of each guide rail connectable to the machine for producing packing blanks, and
- each laterally separated path of web material being associated with a line up means, upstream of the guide rail entrance ends, for aligning the web material with the guided passage, wherein,

the line up means comprises a capstan, supported on the frame and freely rotating about an axis extending transversely to the feed direction, and

a circumference of the capstan is defined through horizontal bars parallel with the axis of rotation, and the cord length between adjacent bars of the capstan corresponding to the distance between the fold lines of a fan fold web material.

7-8. (cancelled).

9. (currently amended) ~~The web guide of claim 6~~ A guide for controlling web material in laterally separate paths from a web supply to a machine for producing packing blanks, comprising:

- a frame extending transversely to a feed direction of the web;

- at least one pair of laterally separated guide rails running in parallel in said feed direction, each guide rail comprising an upper and a lower flexible strip, respectively, the strips defining a guided passage from an entrance end to an exit end of the guide rail;

- the guide rails being laterally displaceable on the frame;

- the exit end of each guide rail connectable to the machine for producing packing blanks, and

- each laterally separated path of web material being associated with a line up means, upstream of the guide rail entrance ends, for aligning the web material with the guided passage,

wherein the line up means further comprises a flexible arm, reaching upstream from the entrance end and biased to press the web material towards the capstan.

10-13. (cancelled).

14. (new) An arrangement for guiding a web material in a feed direction, comprising:

a frame having a horizontal member extending transversely to a feed direction; and

at least one pair of guide-rails running laterally separated and in parallel from said horizontal member, each guide-rail in said pair of guide-rails comprising

an upper guide-rail strip and a lower guide-rail strip, the upper and lower guide-rail strips made of flexible material,

the upper and lower guide-rails running mutually separated from an entrance end to an exit end, and

the upper and lower guide-rail strips being separated horizontally at the entrance end and spaced vertically at the

exit end, providing therebetween a curved, continuous passage for a longitudinal margin of the web material.

15. (new) The arrangement of claim 14, wherein the upper and lower guide-rail strips are secured in horizontally separated relation at the entrance end through a clamp, and are fixedly spaced vertically at the exit end through a vertical shield, confining the web laterally in the passage.

16. (new) The arrangement of claim 14, wherein the guide-rails of said pair of guide-rails are controllable for lateral displacement on the horizontal member in mutually opposite directions relative to a center.

17. (new) The arrangement of claim 16, wherein the center is laterally displaceable on the horizontal member.

18. (new) The arrangement of claim 14, wherein at least two pairs of guide-rails are laterally positioned on the frame, each pair of guide-rails providing guided passage for webs being individually advanced side by side through the arrangement.

19. (new) An arrangement for guiding a web material in a feed direction, comprising:

a frame having a horizontal member extending transversely to the feed direction, and

at least one pair of guide-rails running laterally separated and in parallel from said horizontal member, each guide-rail in said pair of guide-rails comprising

an upper guide-rail strip and a lower guide-rail strip,

the upper and lower guide-rail strips made of flexible material, and running mutually separated from an entrance end to an exit end,

the upper and lower guide-rail strips being spaced horizontally at the entrance end and spaced vertically at the exit end, providing therebetween a curved, continuous passage for a longitudinal margin of the web material, and

a line-up means including a capstan arranged upstream of the entrance end of said at least one pair of laterally separated guide-rails.

20. (new) The arrangement of claim 19, wherein the capstan has an axis of rotation and a circumference defined through horizontal bars parallel with the axis of rotation, the cord length between adjacent bars of the capstan corresponding to a distance between folding lines of a fan fold material.

21. (new) The arrangement of claim 20, wherein an angular distance between adjacent bars of the capstan is 120° , the cord lengths defining an isosceles triangle.

22. (new) The arrangement of claim 19, wherein the capstan further comprises a flexible arm, reaching upstream from the guide-rail entrance end and biased to press the fan fold material towards the capstan.